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SECURITY INFORMATION

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SUBJECT **Crude Oil Pipe Line Connecting Lobau on Danube
with Hnevice on Labe**NO. OF PAGES **2**

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A pipe line connecting Hnevice, Most, and Lobau was built by the Germans and completed in 1944. The purpose of this pipe line was to transport poor gasoline from Austrian refineries to Most where a high octane gasoline would be produced and transported further to Hnevice. It also eliminated rail transportation of crude oil products between the Danube and Labe rivers. Due to the quick end of the war it was not put into use.

The pipe line is approximately 1 - 1.5 m underground and the diameter is about 40 cm. In 1948, two engineers from the Benzina Corp. in Hnevice took plans of the pipe line to Austria to investigate the possibilities of putting it into use. After it was found out that the Austrians could be ready in about six weeks and the Czechs in about nine months to a year, the matter was dropped. In 1950, the Chemapol Co. Ltd. in Prague showed interest in finishing the pipe line, but nothing was done.

A series of pumping stations are located along the pipe line; the main stations are at Lobau, Bockfliess, Gaslav, Kolin, Most, Hnevice, and probably three more on the Czech-Moravian border. Any in Moravia and Bohemia are not known. As the farmers dismantled most of the equipment during the war, the Czechs and Austrians asked for the required pumps from the Russians and were promised a supply. During these negotiations, the Russians were represented by Prigorniev (fnu) and the Austrians by Ing. Balgave (fnu).

There are about eight stopping valves from Lobau to the Czech border which means that an 8-10 km section of the pipe line could be closed off for repairs. The telephones connecting the valves were stolen during the war.

At present, certain sections of the pipe line are in use. Gasoline is

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transported from the Stalin Works in Most to Kolin and Caslav. The section Caslav-Havlickuv Brod is probably in use as well, but this fact cannot be established. The quantity and quality of the gasoline transported through this pipe line is not known [redacted] In Austria, crude oil is transported through the Bockfliess-Lobau section in the reverse direction from that originally planned. About 3,500 tons of crude oil run through this section daily. This oil comes from Matzen which has a pipe line connecting with Bockfliess.

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[redacted] the Lobau-Most-Hnevice pipe line could be put into use in two months if the need were urgent. In such an event, another means of transportation would have to be found for the oil coming from Matzen, probably a new pipe line from Bockfliess to Lobau which could take over the crude oil output now running through the original pipe line.

In Neusiedl, there are about 20,000,000 Austrian schillings' worth of pipes; both for boring into the ground and for transporting crude oil. They could be used for the building of a pipe line from Bockfliess to Lobau.

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